

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)  
January 9, 2008  
Hampton Inn, Okemos, Michigan  
10:00 am — 3:00 pm**

**Minutes**

Delegates Present: Beverly Baroni-Yeglic, Debra Brinson, Cindy Bush, Thomas Caldwell, Frederick Cromie, Julie Daggett-Lawrence, Tina Densmore, Judith Dorsch-Backes, Jonelle Gillette, Darlene Heard-Thomas, Doris Higgs, Robert Hove, Maggie Kolk, Christopher Korb, Kathleen Kosobud, Sheri Kraft, Shari Krishnan, Tom Langdon, Diane Lanham, David Overly, Richard Spring, Susan Steinbacher, Chuck Stockwell, Michael Yocum

Alternates Present: Barbara Stork for Jill Jacobs

Ex-Officio Present: Valerie Lange, Jacquelyn Thompson

MDE Staff Present: Karen Filliez, Meredith Hines, Ann Omans, Jane Reagan, Harvalee Saunto, Chuck Saur, Pat West

Guests Present: Beth Alberti, Hetty Colver, Michael DeJulian, Lori Irish, Linda Keway, Michele Robinson, Debs Roush, Craig Wiles

SEAC Consultant: Sandi Laham

- I. Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.
- II. Roll Call was taken.
- III. Guests were introduced.
- IV. The proposed January 9 agenda was approved.
- V. The December 5, 2007 SEAC minutes were approved.
- VI. There was no Public Comment.
- VII. Chairperson's Report
  - a. The Executive Committee Nomination Form will be e-mailed this week.
  - A. Today's agenda. The focus of work groups today will be to take a proactive look at unmet needs of special education students.
- VIII. State Department Reports – Jacquelyn Thompson
  - A. State Board Report
    - Adoption of Proposed Elementary Teacher Certification Standards
    - Department is submitting request to OSEP to amend the current accountability workbook (No Child Left Behind master plan) to allow Fifth Year cohort for receiving a diploma (on a case by case basis.)

B. OSEP Report

- November onsite visit went well. No major findings. Formal report by the end of January.

C. Determinations – Ann Omans

- Determinations completed.
- LEA determinations waiting final approval; must be released by February 1.
- ISD Determinations are still in formulation process.
- IDEA does not require posting determinations on the web.
- Levels of determinations as defined by IDEA:
  - Level 1 - Meets Requirements
  - Level 2 - Needs Assistance
  - Level 3 - Needs Intervention
  - Level 4 - Needs Substantial Intervention.
- Discussion followed.

D. CIMS (Continuous Improvement Monitoring System): Ann Omans

- CIMS redesign team has been formed.
  - Redesign team will meet January to March.
  - 25 people from varied backgrounds and expertise areas.
  - Final re-design will roll out next September.
- Monitoring – Service Provider Self Review (SPSR) is on a 3 year cycle. All districts will be completed in June.
- Verification visits are done every five years.
- Focused Monitoring: if there are findings, an improvement plan is implemented.

E. Policies and Procedures: Ann Omans

- Dec. 28 comment period ended.

F. Due Process Hearing Report – Harvalee Saunto

- State Complaints: In 2 cases the state did not make the 60 day timeline for investigation which dropped performance to 99%.
- Due Process:
  - 34% fewer number of cases were filed.
  - 18% increase in the number of resolution sessions conducted.
  - 6 hearings were fully adjudicated.
  - Mediations to resolve disputes have increased.

- Discussion: SEAC would like to know the number of hearings that are pending. Harvalee will have this information at the next report.
- OSEP was pleased with Michigan data. OSEP suggestions: adjust database, and document requested timeline extensions.
- Annual Performance Report (APR): Intensity (complexity) of complaints is increasing. Program Accountability at OSE-EIS has increased staff to maintain compliance.
  - Finalization of new procedures for state complaints, public comments is underway.
  - Training for administrative law judges.
  - Having hearings, complaints, mediations, monitoring and policy within Program Accountability has helped us to have a better pulse on issues throughout the State and provide mandated supervisory responsibilities.
- Discussion:
  - State has not dismissed any complaints for lack of information provided by the parent

IX. Reports from Ex-Officio Members - NONE

X. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

A. SEAC Bylaws and Procedures Committee: Bob Hove

- Committee will meet during lunch to focus on revision of the clause regarding standing committees, and sections dealing with quorum in light of off site meetings dealing with new technologies.

B. SEAC Ad-Hoc E-meeting/Technology Committee: Tom Caldwell

- Impossible with the present facility.
- Conclusion that we are not currently in a position to do it financially or technologically.
- Committee will continue to research possibilities.

Discussion:

- Must have tech support. Resources are not available at this time. Would like to meet at ISD or high school where they have the capability.
- ISD meetings and events are priority at ISDs.
- MDE does not have portable technology (for off-site). SEAC would have to lease equipment.
- Jacque – Try a pilot next year (January or February) with 5 regional locations and one in Lansing, if preliminary work can be done.
- Group met during lunch to discuss issues further

XI. SEAC Learning: Medicaid School Based Services Program, Jane Reagan, Presenter, Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services

- Background information: Jane provided the SEAC with a copy of an article she wrote for the May 2005 issue of the newsletter "Focus on Results" entitled, "Michigan Medicaid School Based Services Program Helps Cover the Costs of Some Health Care Services". It is available at this web link: <http://www.cenmi.org/focus/policy.asp>
- Her PowerPoint presentation consisted of almost 40 slides, but the focus of her talk was on about 15-20 of the slides. She thought the remainder of the information would be useful to SEAC members. The presentation is available at the OSE/EIS "presentation" site at this link: [www.michigan.gov/ose-eis](http://www.michigan.gov/ose-eis) and under the heading "resources", click on "Presentations by OSE/EIS staff" and it is sorted by date and under the Michigan Medicaid School Based Services."

Discussion:

- Licensed professionals who provide the services should be doing the paperwork
- IEP services do not require Medicaid preauthorization. If the parent takes the child to a private clinic and the clinic provides more services, that clinic cannot, generally, bill for Medicaid unless they obtain Medicaid prior authorization before billing.

XII. Information Items <sup>1</sup> - NONE

XIII. Facilitated Dialogue, Setting Targets for SPP/APR Indicator #14

- Background
  - OSEP visit clarified the intent of what to do with SPP #14
  - Adopt the National Post School Outcomes (NPSO) Standards (OSEP adopted the NPSO Standards)
  - SEAC, at a previous meeting, set two separate standards for (1) paid employment, (2) competitive employment and postsecondary education
- Task for SEAC
  - Set one target instead of two
  - Amend previous SEAC work to reflect a composite number based on current work that has been done
- Discussion

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<sup>1</sup> Items requiring action by the SEAC are presented first as Information Items and then again as Action Items the following month.

- Michigan's challenging economic situation
- Data will get more accurate over time.
- Suggest SEAC amend their previous comment to include targets for SPP 14 which represent the required 1% improvement from baseline
  - 2008 – 70%
  - 2009 – 73%
  - 2010 – 76%
  - 2011 – 79%
- Targets must be rigorous and reasonable
- A new survey will be done that will be easier to understand
- Definitions have remained the same
- SEAC Requested copy of the February 1, 2008 APR
- Final Target for SPP #14
  - Motion by Bob Hove, seconded by David Overly that SEAC adopt these targets and then have a discussion of whether to use them for the composite number.
  - Motion carried.
  - Discussion followed and SEAC unanimously adopted the suggested figures for the composite number.

#### XIV. Work Groups

- a. Personal Curriculum Proactive Discussion
- b. High School Graduation Requirements and Special Education Students
- c. SPP #14 – Work was completed today.

#### XV. Processing Work groups

- a. Personal Curriculum Proactive Discussion
  - Bob Hove will summarize the Personal Curriculum Guidelines, send to listserv with links.
- b. High School Graduation Requirements and Special Education Students
  - Tom Langdon summarized work of this group
    - Regular Diploma/Merit Diploma
    - Vocational vs. Academic Diploma
    - Communication with parents about changes
    - RTI
    - Grade issues
- c. SPP #14 – Work was completed today

XVI. Action Items

- Work was completed on SPP #14 target setting during the facilitated dialog portion of the meeting today.

XVII. Member Announcements

- Cindy Bush – 68<sup>th</sup> Annual CEC Conference, "Getting There Together," February 27-29, Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan

XVIII. Future Agenda Considerations

- a. SPR/APP Indicator #1 – Graduation Rate
- b. SEAC 08-09 Executive Committee Nominations
- c. Personal Curriculum – February/March 2008

XIX. Process Check

XX. Adjournment at 2:25 p.m.